

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-15, 19-20, 22-23 and 25-32 are pending. No claims are allowed.

The claims were rejected on formal grounds.

(1) The claims were rejected on formal grounds under 35 USC 132(a) as new matter and 35 USC 112 first paragraph, as to the limitation "5 minutes or less". The Abstract and Claims have been corrected to read "a time up to 5 minutes" and to specify the nature of the x-ray diffraction pattern as shown in Figure 4 and described at paragraph [0069], page 15 of the specification. These two (2) factors clearly define the expanded graphite platelets in the claims. Reconsideration of this rejection is requested.

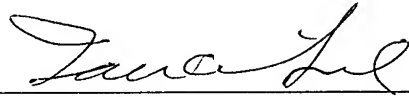
(2) Claims 29-32 were rejected on the specific wattage at 1040 Watts. The claims have been amended to delete "at least". Reconsideration is requested.

(3) The claims were rejected based upon double patenting over two (2) co-pending applications, Serial Nos. 11/363,336 and 11/435,471. Enclosed are the required Terminal Disclaimers. Reconsideration is requested.

MSU 4.1-588
Appl. No. 10/659,577
Amdt. dated May 3, 2007
Reply to Office Action of March 7, 2007

It is believed that Claims 1-4, 7-8, 10-15, 19-20, 22-23, and 25-32 are in condition for allowance. Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ian C. McLeod", written over a horizontal line.

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Enclosures: Terminal Disclaimers